

Gov. Schwarzenegger Proclaims State of Emergency for Riverside County

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today proclaimed a state of emergency for Riverside County as a result of the wildfires commencing early this morning. Also, in honor of the four firefighters who died today while heroically fighting these fires, the Governor has ordered flags to be flown at half staff at the State Capitol and all California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection facilities throughout the state. Below is the full text of the proclamation.

A PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS conditions of extreme peril to public health and safety of persons and property exists within the County of Riverside caused by fires commencing on October 26, 2006 and continuing; and

WHEREAS on October 26, 2006 Riverside County declared a local emergency as the result of high winds and fires threatening residential and commercial property; and

WHEREAS the fires continue to expand and create a situation of extreme peril for the firefighters, the residents and the businesses of the county; and

WHEREAS there already has been a loss of lives, including several firefighters, damage to homes and a severe impact to the infrastructure of area; and

WHEREAS on June 15, 2006 I signed an Executive Order directing key state agencies to increase their efforts to prevent wild-land fires and significantly enhance their capability to respond to fire emergencies; and

WHEREAS under the provision of section 8558(b) of the California Government Code, I find that conditions of extreme peril exist due to the fires in Riverside County; and

WHEREAS the situation is beyond the capability and control of the county, thereby necessitating the need for assistance beyond its borders.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, section 8625 of the California Government Code, HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY to exist within Riverside County.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of my Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the State Emergency Plan.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this proclamation

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 26th day of October 2006.

ARNOLDSCHWARZENEGGER

Governor of California

ATTEST:

BRUCE McPHERSON

Secretary of State